

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for selecting one protocol from among a plurality of protocols to establish one or more communications sessions between ~~two computers~~ a first computer and a second computer, where the first computer has an object and the second computer has an object-handle associated with the object, and where the object-handle identifies the plurality of protocols, the method comprising the steps of:
 - a. generating bid values for one or more protocols among the plurality of protocols identified by the object-handle upon invoking on the second computer the object located on the first computer for each of said one or more communications sessions;
 - b. dynamically arranging the bid values in a sequence corresponding to their relative values so as to indicate the a relative preference among the one or more protocols for each of said one or more communications sessions; and
 - c. parsing the arranged bid values to select a highest protocol that is the highest preference according to the sequence and is effective in establishing each of said one or more communications sessions.
2. (Currently Amended) The method as in claim 1, wherein the generating step further comprises the steps of:
 - a. referencing a predefined configuration that is associated with the second computer;
 - b. for each of the one or more protocols among the plurality of protocols, determining whether the one or more protocols qualifies according to the configuration; and

8. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 1, wherein the generating step further comprises the steps of:
 - a. referencing a predefined configuration that is associated with the second computer; and
 - b. setting a bid equal to a value within one of a plurality of prescribed ranges according to predefined rules in the configuration.
9. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 8, wherein the configuration includes a priority list, and the generating step further comprising the step of adjusting the bid values within a single range according to the priority list specified in the configuration.
10. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 8, wherein the parsing step further comprises the step of determining one or more conditions associated with the plurality of prescribed ranges such that the bid values within each of the plurality prescribed ranges are parsed when the associated conditions are satisfied.
11. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 10, wherein the ranges include an exclusivity range with an associated condition that if there is at least one bid value within the exclusivity range, the bid values within ranges having lower preference than exclusivity range are not parsed.
12. (Previously Presented) The method as in claim 10, wherein the ranges include a critical range with an associated condition such that the bid values within the critical range are parsed before the bid values in the ranges other than the critical range are parsed.
13. (Withdrawn) A method for selecting one protocol from among a plurality of protocols to establish communication between a first computer and a second computer, where the first computer has an object and the second computer has an

c. selecting a communication profile for accessing the target object based on the bid values in the portfolio.

15. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 14 further comprising the steps of receiving signals representing a user setting for the property that relates to the use of the protocol and incorporating the user setting in the client configuration associated with the client.
16. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 14 wherein the bid values are based at least in part on a relative efficiency of the protocol in the structure connecting the server and the client.
17. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 14 wherein the bid values are based at least in part on user preferences for communication channel characteristics.
18. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 14 wherein the bid values are based at least in part on target object constraints.
19. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 14 wherein said bid values are based at least in part on privileges to use certain communications channels.
20. (Withdrawn) The method as in claim 14 wherein said bid values are based at least in part on a client middleware infrastructure's support for certain protocols.